

NOTES ON GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Amphibia, Anura, Microhylidae, *Hyophryne histrio*: Distribution extension

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Hyophryne histrio was described as a new genus and species based on a single juvenile specimen from Fazenda Repartimento, municipality of Ilhéus, state of Bahia, northeastern Brazil. Since the original description the taxon remained undocumented until 1999 when 42 specimens were collected in pitfall traps at Una Biological Reserve (15°10' S, 39° 31' W) and surroundings, ca. 50 km south of the type locality at Ilhéus (Dixo 2004). Argôlo (2005) reported one specimen of *H. histrio* from Fazenda União (15°16' S, 40°27' W), municipality of Itambé, state of Bahia. This record extended the range of *H. histrio* ca. 150 km west of the Una Reserve and Ilhéus localities.

During a recent dissection of a single juvenile specimen of *Ceratophrys aurita*, family Ceratophryidae, from the Amphibian Collection of the Museu Nacional, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (MNRJ 19030), one small *Hyophryne histrio* (snout-vent length approximately 20 mm) was found in the stomach (Figure 1).

This specimen of *C. aurita* (snout-vent length 55.3 mm, jaw width 31.9 mm) was collected by M. Van Sluys and H. G. Bergallo on 7 April, 1997, from the Nova Viçosa municipality (17°52' S, 39°23' W), southern Bahia, which extends the distribution of *H. histrio* ca. 300 km south from Una Biological Reserve, Ilhéus, and Itambé, the only other known localities (Figure 2).

One adult and one juvenile of *H. histrio* (MNRJ 18921, 18922) were also collected at the same locality during the same field work as was the *C. aurita* specimen, but wrongly identified as *Stereocyclops incrassatus*, a species that also occurs in Nova Viçosa (BA), and that is similar to *H. histrio*.

These records show that *Hyophryne histrio* is more widely distributed than previously thought, although it remains poorly sampled. Currently, there are only 47 preserved specimens of *H. histrio* (one from the type locality Ilhéus, one from Itambé, three from Nova Viçosa, and 42 from Una). In spite of the fact that *H. histrio* is considered less abundant than *S. incrassatus* (Faria et al. 2007) and that they can be readily distinguished from one another because of the white blotches on the belly and well developed interdigital membranes of the feet of *H. histrio*, (uniform belly, and no interdigital membrane in *S. incrassatus*), additional specimens of *H. histrio* may exist in collections misidentified as *S. incrassatus* since this species occurs in the same areas and is more widely known than *H. histrio*.

New World Microhylids also exhibit various degrees of fossoriality, and these secretive habits make them difficult to encounter (Wild 1995). Furthermore, many species usually reproduce explosively, and so unless they are encountered during the reproductive period, pitfall traps with drift fences may be the best and only way to collect them efficiently.

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Figure 1. Dorsal and ventral view of the juvenile of *Hyophryne histrio*, found in the stomach of *C. aurita* (MNRJ 19030) from Nova Viçosa, BA. Snout-vent length app. 20 mm.

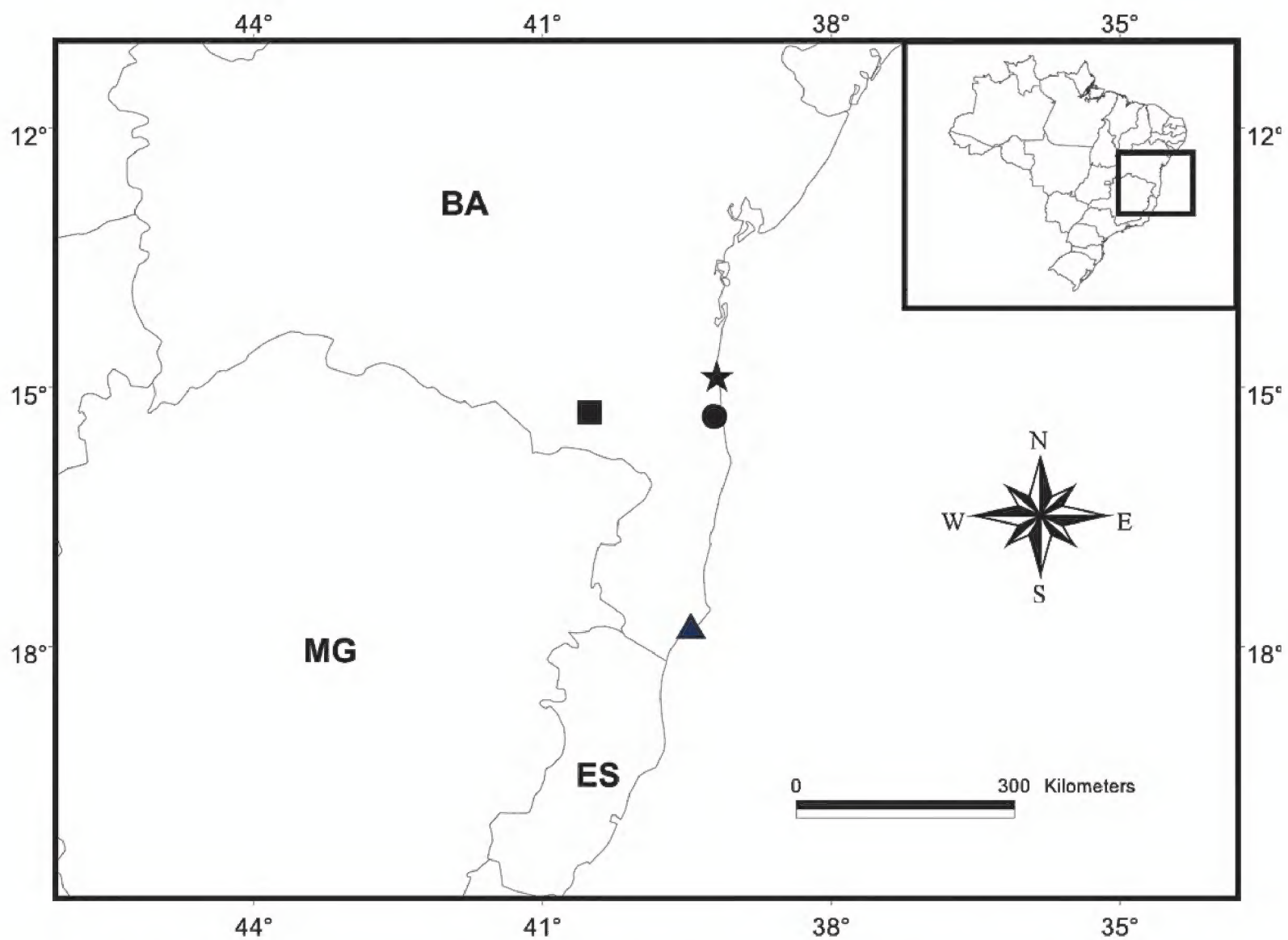


Figure 2. Distribution map of *Hyophryne histrio*. Municipality of Ilhéus, type locality (star); municipality of Una (circle); municipality of Itambé (square); municipality of Nova Viçosa, new record (triangle). BA: state of Bahia; MG: state of Minas Gerais; ES: state of Espírito Santo.

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